To care for bim who bas borne the tattle, and for his widow and crpbans."

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Is GEN. REYES well named? He doesn't seem to be able to raise even a little trou

Colombia knows now how those owners of Belgian hares must feel who didn't sell when the boom was on.

THE Democrats have, with unexpected against the Panama fact. The Philippine and Hawaii sores are not quite well yet.

GEN. REYES is going to invade Panama with 100,000 men. Now, won't Uncle Sam send down a watchman with a night-stick and a police whistle to make them keep off the grass?

IN ALL the countless revolutions South America it has never happened that a new State could be more than a week old, before Uncle Sam recognized

the Philippines besides sick soldiers. In ed askance, and tightened their pursethe last nine months we imported from strings against the appeal of the Secre the islands \$9,000,000 worth of hemp, su- tary. gar, etc., an increase of \$2,000,000 for wanted to issue more paper money, but the corresponding period of the year be-

Corownia sent to Panama that if she would come back and share that \$10,000, the greenback was only 68.9 cents, and 000 with her all would be forgiven, but within a month it still further depre-Panama tearfully replied that while she loved some of her old associates, she liked thirds of its face value. A man who had her new company better.

GEN. REYES has another card to play He says that unless President Roosevelt does what he wants him, he will start a campaign against him in the Democratic Party and in the newspaper, to defeat him for the Presidency. The ranks of the Democracy are open to Gen. Reyes, and extended arms.

IN THE words of the late Secretary Rusk, the little Republic of Cuba "seen money was in February worth only 62.3 her duty and done it," clearly and prompt- cents on the dollar, in gold, and the interly. When President Marroquin asked her est on the bonds would be payable in to join with Colombia in protesting against gold, this would make the interest on the the action of the United States, Cuba re- bonds amount to about 8 per cent, plied that she would "just do nothing of the Only \$211,000,000 of the \$400,000,000 kind," but would recognize the new Govto the fullest extent. After all, there's a good deal of man down there in the Government paid on the loan, for an

the proposition to expend \$101,000,000 to par, and therefore the fortunate holdfor the improvement of the Eric Canal and Hudson River was carried by a large \$79,547,000 by the enhancement of the majority. New York and Buffalo gave it a majority of 415,000, which would imply that the men who had the scheme most at of a gold valuation of \$133,563,000, they heart supplied Tammany and the ring at Buffalo liberally with funds and therefore got a solid vote in its favor. All but 10 of the other Counties voted against it, making a majority outside of Buffalo and New York of 154,000, which deducted from those of the two cities left a net majority of about 270,000. This is the greatest sum ever voted by any State or Nation to be expended in one improvement, and is phenomenal in that way. The proposition is to convert the Erie Canal into a great waterway capable of floating strings of 1,000-ton grain barges, and improving the Hudson River so as to perimperial highway for the grain of the West, giving a great impetus to lake navi-gation. Each 1,000-ton barge would carry about as much as an old-fashioned freight train, and a string of them more than two loan for 17 years at 6 per cent. interest, or three of the great freight trains of to-day. If the State of New York is willing nd \$101,000,000 on such an enter prise, there ought to be no hesitation or ket. It was in vain, for though \$900,000. quibble about the United States spending 000 of these bonds were authorized, but enough to make a canal of the highest \$75,000,000 could be obtained. As these class across the Isthmus.

since the Alaskan decision lest we buy of their face value in gold, the \$75,000, Greenland from Denmark, and assert a 000 borrowed represented less than \$50 vested right to a large portion of the Hud- 000,000 actually loaned, making the interson Bay region on account of the long est in gold about 9 per cent. Upon the operations of our whalers in those waters. \$75,000,000, of less than \$50,000,000 gold She pretends a fear that we shall cut her value, borrowed at this time, the Governoff from the north part of the continent, ment paid \$76,820,494.02 interest beside and make her but a narrow strip across redeeming the bonds at their gold value, the mainland. Therefore she is hastily thereby giving the lucky lenders, in all, fitting out an expedition which will go to over \$102,000,000 in addition to their Hudson Bay, rehoist the British flag on principal for their loan of less than \$50,all the islands where it has not been seen 000,000. for very many years, and expel the American whalers from Hudson Bay, asserting that it is a closed sea, and not open to any but British shipping. She claims all the land north of her to the North Pole, and there is a possibility that the expedition ed every six months. Of these, \$266,595, will make an effort to discover that. She 440 were issued to run three years, upon maintains that Hudson Bay has been a which the immense sum of \$34,411,822.82 closed sea, a British possession since 1713, interest was paid. On the back of each though the American whalers have been so numerous in there and so little inter-holder how much he would make by refered with that they may claim a right to taining it in his possession. For examoccupation or account of the failure of the ple: Six months after issue a \$10 note islands and shores. The wealth of the whale fishery in that region is very great, was worth \$10.92; and at the end of the and mostly enjoyed by New England sallors. The favorite whaling ground is were paid to the soldiers, many more to in the vicinity of Chesterfield Inlet, on the northwest side of Hudson Bay, where the American ships winter and make their headquarters. These are all to be ordered away. Maj. Moody has been appointed Governor of the Bay, and has gone with a force of police to build a fort at Chester-field Inlet, and give visible evidence of Canadian rule. The expedition will not return for a year. Of course, this will wake up New England, and it is not impossible that it will be discovered that our ishermen have rights in that region which Canada can not be allowed to disregard.

THE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS OF 1863. We will now take up the way in which the money-lenders exacted their pound of flesh from the bleeding country during the discouraging days of 1863, to put in comparison with the expenditure of \$3,200,

000,000 for pensions.

The year 1863 opened very gloomily for the friends of the Union. The girantic preparations made for crushing the rebellion and ending the war in 1862, had at no time given even a moiety of the success sanguinely hoped for. The magnificent Army of the Potomac, on which such vast sums of money had been lavshed, had recoiled when in sight of the pires of Richmond, had been forced back nto the defenses of Washington, had ought a series of bloody but indecisive battles in that neighborhood culminating in Antietam, and then gone on to the frightfui repulse and slaughter on the slopes of Marye's Hights at Fredericksburg. This last useless sacrifice of men would have taken the heart out of any less determined people than the Americans

The Army of the Tennessee after it rilliant success at Fort Donelson had gone on to the murderous drawn-battle of Shiloh: then it let the enemy get away from it at Corinth, and met a disheartening repulse in its first campaign against Vicksburg.

The Army of the Cumberland, the see nd largest army of the Union, had been aced back to the Ohio River, fought the conclusive battle of Perryville, and in December followed this up by a stuborn, sanguinary contest on the banks of Stone River, where the sole advantage wisdom, decided not to bark their shins gained was the possession of the field at the close of the four days' struggle.

The war had already piled up the Naional debt to the startling amount of \$783,804,252.64, and the Secretary of the Treasury announced that this was only the beginning, for he needed the still more incredible sum of \$899,300,701.22 for the ensuing year. This was far more It was a very much larger amount than any country in the world, even the richest Nation on the earth, had ever contemplated spending upon military opera-WE ARE sending something back from tions. The moneyed men naturally look-The Secretary of the Treasury this seemed inadvisable, since that already issued was depreciating with such

rapidity. On New Year's Day, 1863, the value of ciated to 62.3 cents, or less than two-\$100 in gold in January, wanted \$145.01 for it. In February he increased his de-

mand to \$160.05. Congress did everything it could to help the Treasury out. It authorized the Sec retary to borrow \$400,000,000 for one and two years at 5 per cent., and reiterated its pledge that both principal and interest of the bonds should be paid in gold. doubtless Bryan will welcome him with The bonds were intended to float the paper money by being sold for them, and thus boosting their value. As the paper

these favorable rates and on this sum average, say, of 18 months, \$8,526,145,86 in interest. The bonds, which were sold UNEXPECTEDLY to many the vote upon virtually for 62.3 cents, eventually went ers netted in addition to their interest, value of their bonds. Consequently, for their loan of \$211,000,000 face value, but received as follows:

Principal repaid ......\$211,000,000.00 

Total.....\$299.073.145.86 Therefore, they almost doubled their noney in less than two years, and turned over their dollars in a sufficiently lively

manner to satisfy any reasonable man. It is worth while mentioning in this connection that so closely did they cling to these bonds, that in the final settlement there were only \$40 of the one-year notes missing, and \$100 of the two-year mit a ready passage of these from Troy notes, or \$140 in all. The bonds had mardown to New York. This would make an velously escaped the usual destruction by fire, water, thieves, and other accident to which securities are liable.

March 3, Congress authorized another hoping to induce the bond-holders into relaxing the stringency of the money mar-\$75,000,000 could be obtained. As these were sold like the others for greenbacks CANADA professes to be greatly alarmed which were worth less than two-thirds

In addition, Congress in its stress for money went to the length of authorizing an issue of \$400,000,000 of compound interest notes which paid 7 3-10 per cent, in greenbacks, the interest to be compoundnote was printed a little table showing the was worth \$10.30, but in 18 months it the contractors, who, of course, treated them at once out of their possession. They rapidly accruing interest all went into the

hands of the money-lenders. The capture of Vicksburg and the defeat of Lee at Gettysburg heartened up ury Department the friends of the Union, so that in Capitol Hill.

August the greenback rose to 79.5 cents but the fearful battle of Chickamauga and the failure of the Army of the Potomac to inflict a crushing blow upon Lee again sent it down in October and Nocember, to 67.6 cents. In spite of the lecisive victories ground Chattanoora the year 1862 closed with the greenback quoted at only 66.2, and an average value for the year of 68.09 cents.

Thus, while the soldiers of the Union who were fighting its battles and giving all their time and strength unstintedly to the Government for the most meager stipend, the money-lenders had during the year attained a profit of hundreds of millions of dollars in their operations with the Government, and drew nearly \$1,000,000 a week in gold out of the beavily burdened tax-payers of the almost prostrate country.

WHERE THE DIFFERENCE LIES. The Jacksonville (Fla.) Times-Union

throws a fit over the Panama affair and goes on in this addle-pated way:

and the United States of America for the Republic of Colombia. The right of their own is recognized, and we do not think there are many intelligent men North or South who will hold that, other ircumstances being the same, the priniple of secession is affected by whethe he name of the secoding section is spelled S-o-u-t-h or P-a-n-a-m-a

The President has claimed to be both Southern and Northern, and has shown much pride in the fact that the blood of the two sections flows in equal parts in His Northern blood must, in ome way, have escaped, for he is now vidently a Southerner for the Southerners. There are few Southern men who ould have asked for such a flat-footed inorsement of secession.

now, since the South has can ured the United States, we feel generous ly inclined. Of course, all histories will hereafter make Davis and Lee and Johnthan all the gold and silver and State ston the patriots. We have insisted that bank-notes in the country at that time, they were all the time, but while the President has decided that Lincoln and Grant and Sherman were wrong, we hope he will not asperse their motives. They may have thought they were right. We do not blame any Northern man for the part he took in the civil war, provided he was not inhuman, no matter how mis-guided he may have been."

Malaria and earthquakes have evidently bad effect upon the Florida intellect, precenting it making distinctions which are exceeding clear and obvious to healthy minds. In the first place, the Panama secessionists had, unlike the Southerners, a very distinct, palpable bill of grievances sufficient to justify their action in the eyes of the whole world. They had been most ontrageously treated by the so-called Government at Bogota, which had milked the ring permitting its greed to block the way of the Province were deliberately, selfishly and without reason completely dispossessed, and sacrificed to the voracity of the little ring of politicians at Bogota, who the little ring of politicians at Bogota, who had accidental possession of the reins of hiller, he yelled with a torrent of oaths, power. The people of Panama had stood 'What are you loafing around about? Half this sort of thing without a single lucid o' 'em will get away from yo' first thing yo' know.' Then his sluggish mind had another thought, and he turned furiously interval of decent Government ever since another thought, and he turned furiously upon me, thrusting the revolver into my face and saying—

"Surrender, you white-livered Yankee"
"I could see plainly that, whatever virtue at the foot of the beeches, and then walkeed over to the edge of the cedars, took a joying the terror that he was exciting entirely too much to be in a hurry about outling it in execution. He reveled in approved of their action.

On the other hand, the States which for a moment recognized as just when they in fired on the old Flag and tried to set up a new Government. They had no wrongs to complain of at the hands of the Govern- days and nights through our camps. ment, which had always treated them nore than justly, even generously,

They had themselves control of the Govrnment during a large portion of its exstence. Their object in breaking up the Union was, to quote the words of the Vice-President of the Southern Confederacy. to establish an emplre of which human slavery should be the corner-stone." This was so abhorrent to the rising moral sense of the whole world that it could not seek recognition and find commendation any-where. Even effete, stupid old Spain was lavery, its continuance, and everything pertaining to it, with horror, as a relic of

barbarous, inexcusable past. In the face of all this, Jeff Davis, Bob Toombs, and their fellow-conspirators attempted to set up a Government which was in revolt against the enlightenment of the 19th century. They sacrificed the lives of 1,000,000 men to this insatiate Moloch of ambition and human bondage. the bull's-eye. I reasoned that a man of Much as England and France desired the his character would be likely to be in ments, they could not get their own con-sent nor would their people permit them to recognize a Government the fundamen-tal idea of which was so obnoxious to the il idea of which was so obnoxious to onscience of every civilized man.

Possibly the use of some tonic would on your head than you have now to anchear the Times-Union's vision so that it swer for. "His countenance changed. He hesiwould be able to see the events of the day in the light of everyday common sense.

GROVER CLEVELAND'S ULTIMATUM

As was expected, Ex-President Cleve-As was expected. Development of the race for next year, and saying so in words about which there can be no mistake. The only surprise is that this has come as soon as it has. No well-informed man ever thought seriously that Cleveland would be a candidate for a third term, and understod that the booming of his name was merely to coagulate the Democratic Party, so to speak, and get it into shape for the campaign, and to consider other nominations. Whether this result has been accomplished up to this time is very doubtful. The Democratic Party is apparently somewhat nearer together than it was a few was a fraid for the normal and months ago, but still nothing like so solid-months ago, but still nothing like so solid-mon and has written a letter definitely taking nonths ago, but still nothing like so solid-fied as to give hopes to its friends. No-



Hands-A Tragedy in Signt of Our Picaets "I had been so worn out by the strains of the day and night before that my dulies enses could not for a widle take in tha we had been captured in sight of Atlanta. and I might say within our own lines. sat up and stared stupidly around—at the recei Captain who still held his pisto within two inches of my head; at his en standing about with their guns levele at Larry, me and the boys; at the binni error of the boys, who turned their eye with dumb, anxious appeal toward meat the sun shining on the brown leaves o ne oaks, even at a squirrel frisking along "The United States Government has the branches with his cheeks pottened ou recognized Panama as a de facto Government. \* The only change in the ter. He stopped for a moment to look elegram of the State Department to Vice at us with a feeling of wonder at what consul Ehrman was made by substitut so many men were doing there, and no ing the words 'Southern States' in two body paying any attention to him, places for the words Republic of Panama, booked around for my gun. It was in the hands of a short, chubby fellow, evidently the Orderly-Sergeant of the company, to cople so secode and set up a Government are wore three chevrons and a diamon made of lawyer's red tape, badly fadeu while he kept his eye on his Captain and on us, he was steading a glauce at the

"Stop gawking around eand get up Yank! said the rebel Captain, kickin me again, this time on the thigh. 'Starsp, and let me look yo' over!"

I rose stiffly to my feet and faced the Captain. Instantly I saw that he was an from whom I must expect the worst "He was one of those coarse-fibered ow-natured fellows who, when they have way of showing off. He was a tail, raw bound man, with long, coarse, sandy ha-combed behind his ears, and a goat-lik-bunch of the same on his chin. He ha small, squinting, gray eyes, and a shark like mouth, from the corners of which to bacco-juice trickled. It was the face of a owdy and buily, or such a face as worten saw in our army in the early perior of the war. Most of them disappeared after the first battle, however, those re maining being worn by boss wagon-mas ers.
"I noticed now that my holster was

empty, and that it was with my own pis-ol that he was covering me. "'Well, yo' blue-bellied Yankee, where from, and who are yo'?' he de manded

"'I am Sergeant Wilson Holcomb, Co. A. 200th Indiana Volunteer Infantry and a darn sight better man than you are "I had seen at once that there was no arthly use in being civil, besides I wa nad enough at being captured that way o say anything.
"That's a lie. I'm a better man than

any blasted Yankee that ever lived. Yo'r from Injianny, yo' say? Injianny was settled by hoss-thieves and counterfeiters. and their seed is wussen they are.'
"'All the mean, men in Indiana come

Isthmians of every peso that could be from the South, I answered, and the wrung from them, and given nothing in return, promised nothing in return. Nearly diana Pententiary is so full of Georgians one century of the most injurious misgov-erament had culminated in the Bogota "The Captain's clay-colored face go fairly blue, he was so angry. He raised to an improvement of incalculable benefit to the Province of Panama. The people of the Province were deliberately, selfish-

whelp!"

"I saw his purpose at once. It was to murder me under the pretext of inforcing my surrender. I immediately dropped my

"If hit warn't for that swamp down the cruelty and the sensation of power to the edge of the cedars, took a joying the terror that he was exciting entirely too much to be in a hurry about putting it in execution. He reveled in the cruelty and the sensation of power my the cruelty and the sensation of the cedars, took a joying the terror that he was exciting entirely too much to be in a hurry about putting it in execution.

nds.
"'You rotten fool,' said I, 'you know
"'You rotten fool,' said I, 'you know
"I have surrendered. What can attempted to withdraw from the United very well I have surrendered. What can said he wrathfully. 'I'd like to a States had no plea that the civilized world I do without my arms? You have them him in to add to my pile this mornin. your hands.'
"'Whar've yo' been? How did

are a spy! I orter hang yo' for a spy.' What nonsense! I am a regular sol-

dier. You know that very well. I am in full uniform, and I have been on regular

speaked through our camps of nights." shouted. "That makes yo' a spy—the wuss kind o' a spy. Briles, make nooses in a couple of picket ropes and throw 'em over the limbs of them beeches that. I'll hang 'That makes yo' a spy-the wuss 'If you want to be a murderer you want to be a murderer you oth of these Yankee hounds."

can make any old excuse. 'You know very well that we are not where. Even effete, stupid old Spain was spies, but regular soldiers. If you dare so waked up to the evils of slavery that to hang us, it will cost you very dearly, she was on the point of abolishing it within her own dominions. Outside of and your own top-knot will go if our folks Spain in all Europe, everyone viewed camp was well known at headquarters, and where we were going. They probably know all about you, and what you have done, so you had better have a care for your own scalp. If Billy Sherman should

lismemberment of the United States, and trouble with his superiors, and pretty cer-to break up this country into jarring fragitain to be made a scapegoat if a scape-

goat were required.
"'If you dare to treat us,' I continued as anything but prisoners of war, it will be a sorry day for you. I don't think you are in any shape to bring down any more on your head than you have now to an-

tated and finally ordered:
"'Yo' two go over and set down under
them beeches thar, till I can git ready to

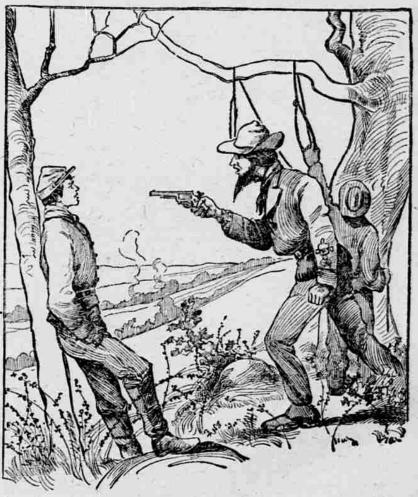
"There was nothing to do but obey, and we did so. Briles, the Sergeant, had obeyed his orders with devilish alacrity.

count, do you think of Yankee marksmen now? You seem to have waked up the wrong

Wils Holcomb and His Squad in Aerciless | movement there. He was almost within ound of our voices, even, but that would

"I done tell yo' agin, I'm a-gwine to hang every last one o' ye' afore I leave this heah spot,' he said. 'I know yo-all. Yo-all'vo bin tryin' to git over to the Yankees for a yeah past. Yo-all we bin traitors at heart, an' desarved to die long ago. If I don't hang yo all yo all'il find a way to line the Yankees, sooner or later. an I'd better finish up the job now, while I've done got yo', an', my mind's made us no good. Belied him rose a thin np. It'll be a lesson to yer kinfolks, that's jest as big traitors as yo-all air, what to expect, if they-all don't mend their evil ways. That hain't a sound, true man in yer whole connection. So, jest prepare It'll be a lesson to yer kinfolks, that's est of the post were sitting around a fire aending their clothes, playing cards, or agaged in some other pastime. There were only four or five of them, probably. die ter-wunst.' ad even if we could yell so as to make

hem hear, it would do no good, for we ould all be murdered before they could each us, and they would probably be "The boys simply looked at him with blank, wondering eyes, and then at me, as if expecting me to save them in some anglitered in the fight with such superior but looked over at our pickets, where the superior but looked over at our pickets are the superior but looked over at our pickets. I could not bear to meet their gaze, "What affected me most was the dumb now all come out into the open, and were error of the boys as the Captain walked studying the clump of cedars, and sur



"'IF YOU WANT TO BE A MURDERER, YOU CAN MAKE ANY OLD EXCUSE," I SAID RESOLUTELY."

down among them, kicking, cursing, and striking. They were as dumb sheep before the butcher. The appeal in their eyes turned pitcously on me hurt me far worse than anything in my own situation or that than anything in my own situation or that of Larry. I had seemed to them so strong and ready when I was leading them through the rebel camps, but now I was powerless to do the least thing for them.

"It was the rebel Captain's day of might and glory, and he was making the most of it. He had never before had so many men under his complete power, and was fairly reveling in his opportunity. He would do that which would impress his own company and fill his little world with his fame as a man of iron will and terrible purpose.

"the conclusion that the shots bad been fired by some bushwhacker or scout, mere ly for the purpose of annoying them, for presently four went back to the fire, leaving one on videt again.

"It was heartrending to have our men so near, and yet so powerless to help us.

"The Captain walked off a few steps, and held a whispered consultation with another shock-headed villain, who seemed to be his Lieutenant.

"He came back and again walked down among the boys, cursing as wickedly as

"'I'm a-gwine to hang every last one of yo' as desarters from the Confederate army,' he announced with a stream of oaths, 'an' I'll hang these two Yankees for spies. All of yer git ready to die, for yo'll never see another sun rise."

"He came back roaring to where Larry and I sat under the shadow of the nooses and I sat under the shadow of the nooses and I sat under the shadow of the nooses are reminding them that there could be no doubt of their guilt, as they were they give you any taken in the company of two Yankees, and within a few yards of the Yankee lines, to which they were unquestionably going. They could not deny that they were were.

"I could see plainly that, whatever villed they are really had in wind the result for the real of the result for the result for the real of the result for t

thar I'd lope over thar and take in that blue-backed son of a Yankee tin-peddler,' said he wrathfully. 'I'd like to gather

"Whar've yo' been? How did yo' risively. 'Old loike to see ye. The swamp needn't bother ye at all. There's worse at my head. 'Yo've been sneaking for than that kapes ye back. He would shoot You your ribil head off before ye got within y.' 300 yards of him . Ye're afraid to tackle gular sol-I am in got a gun in his hands."
"How far will this yer gun carry,

denly and taking my Spencer from the ids of his Orderly-Sergeant.

'Rade the sights yourself, if yer ye ignerant spalpeen, said Larry. 'I mis doubt, though, if you know B from a bull's fut. I'll not tell ye. O'lm not peddlin' information to the rebels now.'
"'Hit's marked up to 1,000 yards, Cap-

tain,' said the Orderly-Sergeant, pointing to the sight. 'Yo' kin see thar.' "Let's see: I reckon it's jest bout 600 yards over whar that thar Yankee is standin'. Put up the sight to 600 yards, in' hand me back the gun.'
"The Sergeant took the carbine, ad-

the Sergeant took the carbine, adjusted the sight, and handed it back to the Captain. The latter took a rest against a young black oak, aimed carefully, and pulled the trigger. Somehow, wicked through the brush there. Then he looked over to where the smoke was curling up, brought his musket to his shoulder, and fired. The white smoke puffed out in rings, as if some gigantic lily had suddenly blossomed from the street. denly blossomed from the stump by which he was standing. The bullet sang so close to the Captain that he instinctively jumped behind the black-oak, and the bul-

let flattened itself against the tough beech, just above Larry's head. "'Ha-ha, what'd Oi tell ye?' laughed Larry, brushing the dust from his eyes. That's a fellow to lave alone. He can lay off on Sunday. Ye've got no business wid the loikes of him."

"Gol-blast him," snorted the Captain,

ble purpose.

among the boys, cursing as wickedly as

"I'm a-gwine to hang every last one of before, reminding them that there could

cat with a mouse. The spectacle of 17 men, all in tense expectation of death at his hands, was too sweet a tribute to his in in to add to my pile this mornin.

"Go 'wan and try it,' said Larry delively. 'Old loike to see ye. The swamp ed away, and looked at us all with a fierce, gloating gaze, and then held un-other consultation with his Lieutenant. "'Arter talkin' with Lieut. Claystone heah,' he said, pausing for a minute to enjoy the sickening eagerness with which the boys awaited his next word. Twe con-cluded that the same good'll be got by hanging only two of yo-all, as a lesson to the rest. The Confederacy needs men nouty badly now, an' though yo-all won' be much account, yo'll be some. I orter to hang every mother's son of yo-all, an'

I would, as freely as I'd eat my supper, if hit warn't for his beggin' for yo-all for he army.'
"Again he stopped for a long time, to enjoy the tearing suspense with which erybody waited for his next words. 'I've done concluded. drawing a greasy pack of cards from his pocket, 'to let yo-all draw cuts for yer lives. Hit's a heap better'n yo' desarve, for yo-all'll have a chance fer yer lives Serg't Briles'll pass down the line an' deal each on yo-all a kenrd. The fust two that

the Captain. The latter took a rest against a young black oak, aimed carefully, and pulled the trigger. Somehow, wicked as the Captain's intentions were, I could yo' do yer duty thar yo'll be all right. If not believe that the picket stood in much yo-all don't yo'll be shot down like sheep-danger, but I watched him with interest. Killin' dogs. Yo-all orter to be mouty He started a little, and looked off to the right, as if he heard the bullet cutting thousand times better'n yo-all desarve, an'thousand times better'n yo-all desarve, an' that I expected to do. Serg't Briles, take these keards over to them Yankees an' let 'em cut 'em so' to insure fa'r play. I want nothin' but fa'r play.'
"'Take thim away! Go away with yer

> horror, as the cards were presented to him, 'Oi wouldn't touch thim with a 10-foot pole! Take thim away, Oi say! "'Go off,' said I scornfully, as Serg't Briles shoved them at me, 'I'm not going to be an accomplice in a said black. to be an accomplice in a cold-blooded mur-der. Captain, if you touch a hair of those heads, you'll roast for it. I'm going to live long enough to see that you do Captain. 'I've bin threatened by Yanker an' Tories too often to be a mite skeered Serg't Briles, bring the keards heah. I'l

Cornsmut.'
"My heart stopped beating as Serg't
Briles walked slowly down the line
Another another for long-distance work.

do you think of Yankee marksmen now?
You seem to have waked up the wrong customer.'

"The Captain swore savagely at us that if we did not keep our heads shut he would come back there and break them. His temper had not been improved by the ocmonths ago, but still nothing like so solidified as to give hopes to its friends. No-body has yet appeared who seems liable to unite the whole party, and in behalf of whom Mr. Cleveland might withdraw. The nearest approach to it is Senator Gorman, but if the convention were hold to-morrow, he would have to win over there? "I looked across the valley in front of sand distinctly saw our infantry videt remarks in nomination could be assured. There is a revival of talk about Judge Parker and Ex-Secretary Olney, but the talk is not infectious, and no spread is visible. It seems to be confined to only a portion of those who were original advocates of those gentlemen.

Is the next step to be reciprocity and a reduction of the duty on Panama hats? If monter the please are decided on the duty on Panama hats? If monter the please is the seems to be confined to only for the duty on Panama hats? If monter really talked how the Trease in the moles in the sindscape, to detect any classical that it is not infectious, and no spread is visible. It seems to be confined to only a portion of those who were original advocates of those gentlemen.

Is the next step to be reciprocity and a reduction of the duty on Panama hats? If monter the please is the seems to be confined to only a portion of the duty on Panama hats? If monter really talked how the Trease is the please the proposed to the would stick it, race outward, in the oreast of each. We could see the result. I had been long enough with the boys to begin ulating and sustaining power even superior to have my favorites, and my first relief of the ill effects alleged to follow their

all of whom he knew personally, and showered on them the foulest abuse that ever fell from a lowdown Georgian's lips, which is saying a great deal, for I have have known a great many dock loafers and steamboat roustabouts, but I never knew one that could think and say as foo! things as a Georgia poor white cau.

"'I done tell vo' action I'm a great white cau."

"'I done tell vo' action I'm a great white line two face cards showed up together.

"'I'd done tell vo' action I'm a great white land there have both

jacks. I can see their legs from here."
The two who had drawn the fatal bil-"The two who had drawn the fatal bil-lets were heavy, overgrown, rather duli-faced boys, who looked stupidly at the two jacks, at Briles, as he took them again from their breasts to show them and in-dicate their fate. The rest of the boys shivered with horror, but the two doomed ones hardly changed a feature.

"'Step out thar one pace,' commanded the Captain, and they moved heavily for commanded ward.

"The fair-haired boy at the right began erying, the first tear which he had shed, and the rest looked unutterably sorrowful. "Take 'em over to the trees,' com-"Take 'em over to the trees,' com-manded the Captain briefly, and the Ser-geant walked the boys over to where the 100ses were dangling, and threw them

over their heads.
"Many of the rebel company who had that hunger to be in at the killing which characterizes the poor whites of the South, instered around the trees and began help clustered around the trees and began helping to adjust the nooses. Two of them climbed up into the branches to be of greater assistance. This made quite a commotion among the limbs, of which the quick eye of the Union picket evidently took notice, for I saw some more blue-clad men beginning to appear alongside of him, and presently a skirmish line deployed from the edge of the timber, and started down the fatther slope. Larry started down the farther slope. Larry had not noticed it, and I touched him cautiously with my foot so as not to attract the attention of the rebel Captain. If I could only delay the murder a few minut

might prevent it.
"'Say, Captain,' I yelled, 'it's a beastly nurder, but certainly you're going to give

those men time to say a prayer, or do something else.'
"It was unavailing. The men of the company had got the scent of blood in their nostrils, and were too eager to have the hanging go on to stop for any such consideration, and the Captain yelled back

"'Shet up yo' head, Yank, and tend to yer own business. Prayin' has been done away with till the end of this 'ere war. You'd better be prayin' your ownwar. You'd better be prayin' your ownself. Yo'll have to go next. Thar, men,
put the ropes over nearer the crotch, so's
the limbs won't break. Three or four o'
yo' git hold of the end of each rope, so's
to haul away sharp when I drop my hand.
Arter yo've got 'em up a yard or so, wrap
the ends of the ropes round the butts of
the trees, and we'll leave 'em thar for the
crows and buzzards, an' as a warnin' to
their kin-folks and the other black-hearted
Tories.'

Fories.'
"I had mad thoughts of rushing at the "I had mad thoughts of rushing at the Captain, and Larry at the Lieutenant, and engaging in a hand-to-hand fight to delay the proceedings until the company, which was advancing with aggravating slowness down the slope of the hill, could reach us. But it seemed absolute folly for us two with our bare hands to attack a company of 40 or 50, all of whom were now tigerishly interested in the awful work.

"Well, good-by, boys, said the two doomed ones as the nooses were drawn up around their necks. Their dull, animal-like stolidity in the face of death was most touching. Larry and I could not stand it, and we sprang to our feet, wild with excitement, but Lieut, Claystone and the Orderly-Sergeant grinned wickedly at

the Orderly-Sergeant grinned wickedly at us with our own carbines cocked and point-ed within a few inches of our heads. I turned away to look at the oncoming com-pany, and when I looked back the bodies of the two boys were swinging in the air, a yard from the ground.

"'See, Captain! the Yanks are coming," exclaimed one of the men who had happened to turn his eyes from the absorbing spectacle and noticed the approach of the

spectacle and noticed the approach of the skirmish line.

"'So they'uns air,' said the Captain with an oath. 'Mount your critters. Git out o' here, Lieut. Claystone, fetch them Yanks along in a hurry, or shoot 'em if they give you any trouble. Mount!—everybody! Git down that to the right!"

"The next moment we were all rushing away into the valley, and far from the reach of our people."

(To be continued.)

The consolidated number of certificates sened for the months of July, August, September and October of this year show the very agreeable total of 48,098. The number of certificates issued for the corresponding period of last year was 36,-402. This shows that for the four mouths named the work of the Pension Bureau has been increased 33 per cent, over amount done in the same time last year.

A still better comparison is with the corresponding period for 1901, which was the last year of Commissioner Evans's administration. For the four months named of that year the total number of certificates issued was 31,615. This was the best year of Evans's administration, and the best part of that year. It was the best work that had been done in the Pension Bureau for 10 years previous. Yet the work for the same period of this year exceeds that of Evans's best four months by 16,483, or about 53 per cenf. This is a most impressive exhibit of the increased efficiency of the working force of the Bureau, and of the strong disposition of the Commissioner to execute the pension laws.

Quite as significant is the fact that this result has not been secured by any pressure upon the working force, or other abnormal stimulus. It has been obtained by the regular working of the official force under the great improvement in the management and discipline of the office, as well as by the greater liberality on the part of the Commissioner. Mr. Evans's methods of managing the office were as unfortunate divvil's picture books!' yelled Larry with in conception as all other matters connected with the pension system. His ways were nagging, faultfinding, and abusive, which were not calculated to bring out the which were not calculated to bring out the best services of those under him. This method has been replaced by a well-or-dered, firmly administered system which brings all the different divisions into harmonious action, and secures, without pressure upon anyone, a greater output by the whole. Mr. Evans's excuse for iess of the work accomplished was that he was dealing with the aggregation of dif-ficult cases, which he had inherited from his predecessors. The emptiness of this pretext is now apparent, because his successor inherited "all the snags," the ad-judication of which Evans had shoved over

for the future.

The showing is in every way quite credi-

An effort is being made in England to introduce the yerba-mate, as a substitute for ten and coffee, particularly ten, of which the British are enormous consumers. Yerba-mate is otherwise known as Paraguay tea, and is in universal use in Paraguay and Argentine, where it takes the place among working men of the beer, wine, liquors, tea and coffee used in Europe. It is best drunk as a hot infusion through a metal tube, but it is also used in the same way as tea and coffee with milk and sugar, though most people prefer it without these additions. It has a stimof the ill effects alleged to follow their use. All the British medical journals use. All the British medical journals recommend it as a substitute for tea and coffee, and still more decidedly as a substitute for beer and spirits. It is very much cheaper than either tea or coffee. It much cheaper than either ten or coffee. It is said that the working men in South America are able to accomplish enormous tasks on this alone. It is at first very bit-